

**Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland**

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



Students at Clopper Mill Elementary School learn about buying recycled after watching the "Magic of Recycling" show as part of Recycling Awareness Week held May 19-23, 2003.

***MONTHLY REPORT
MAY 2003***



Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper

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OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2003 began July 1, 2002.)

FACILITY	May FY 03	FY 03 Total	May FY 02	May FY 01
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	7,422 tons	78,282 tons	7,273 tons	6,528 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽²⁾	25,091 tons	213,246 tons	20,203 tons	18,549 ⁽⁵⁾ tons
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽³⁾	61,551 tons	563,558 tons	53,536 tons	48,622 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	6,053 tons ⁽⁴⁾	73,372 tons	7,497 tons	5,814 tons

⁽¹⁾MRF tons reported are outgoing.

⁽²⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled.

⁽³⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here.

⁽⁴⁾ 724 additional tons of grass was trucked to Virginia in May.

⁽⁵⁾ Does not include 1,034 tons of ash sent to American Ash Recycling pilot program in May 2001.

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation – During May, program staff:

- Researched 54 property billing characteristics and entered into TXA 170 system;
- Processed vacancy refunds payable in May;
- Updated Access and Excel spreadsheets for monthly contractor reports;
- Updated street listing maps;
- Continued analysis on nonresidential properties to support charge rates;
- Continued to conduct quality assurance on the property tax database;
- Reconciled FY03 Transfer Station incoming tonnage chargeable through first ten months to monies posted in FAMIS;
- Continued assisting the Transfer Station with auditing and daily COD *reconciliation procedures;
- Generated Hauler Credit Account invoices for May 2003 totaling \$1,495,357.77 (an increase of \$271,615.11 over May 2002);
- Continued compiling data input for Calendar Year 2002 County-wide recycling rate analysis;
- Two staff members received training in new software (Crystal Reports™);
- Transmitted residential system benefit charge Executive Regulation (09-03) to Council;

- Amended FY04 Rate Resolution to conform to Council T&E budget and rate recommendations FY04 solid waste fees and charges;
- Sent information about the increased tipping fee (e.g. budget effects) to municipal managers;
- Coordinated preparation by Consulting Engineer of a second Disposal System report (per section 5.23B of the Master Authorization) to recognize the results of the system refinancing which closed April 3rd;
- Drafted Replacement Reserve Fund Calculation (under 5.14 of the Master Authorization);
- Advertised annual notices under the nonresidential system benefit charge regulation;
- Continued research on nonresidential system benefit charge options;
- Prepared ten month revenue review; and
- Assisted, as needed, with budget processes.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – FIG met on May 13th at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson. Nine FIG members, five County staff and three contract staff were in attendance. Topics discussed included the RRF Health Risk Assessment and Ambient Air Monitoring Program

The next FIG meeting will be held on July 8, 2003 at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – SWAC's monthly meeting was held Saturday, May 10th, at the Gothic Dairy Barn in Dickerson, Maryland. Ten SWAC members, four County staff and four guests were in attendance. SWAC members received a presentation on DSWS facilities and activities in Dickerson. The meeting was followed by a tour of the facilities for all interested parties.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month of May. We had a holiday slide for the Memorial Day holiday and everything went well.

Contractor Performance – During the month of May 2003, DSWS received 926 complaints; 323 more than May 2002, which numbered 603.

Customer Service – DSWS received 9,508 incoming calls and 185 follow-up calls were made for quality check; 1,264 blue bins were ordered through the Customer Service Staff.

Recycling – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the past 52 weeks are as follows:

CURRENT PERIOD	POUNDS PER HOUSEHOLD	CORRESPONDING PERIOD PREVIOUS YEAR
5/13/02-6/07/02	9.58	10.19
6/10/02-7/05/02	9.21	9.21
7/08/02-8/02/02	8.74	8.62
8/05/02-8/30/02	9.24	9.10
9/02/02-9/27/02	10.15	10.08
9/30/02-10/25/02	10.45	11.10
10/28/02-11/22/02	11.04	10.83
11/25/02-12/20/02	11.74	11.52
12/23/02-1/17/03	9.75	9.58
1/20/03-2/14/03	8.83	9.01
2/17/03-3/14/03	8.94	9.02
3/17/03-4/11/03	10.01	9.73
4/14/03-5/09/03	9.93	9.81

Enforcement Actions – No citations were issued for violations of the County’s Solid Waste Laws.

Seven NOV’s were issued for violations of the County’s Solid Waste Laws:

Three NOV’s	Improperly stored or permitted solid wastes to accumulate
Two NOV’s	Deposit solid wastes upon the property of another without consent
One NOV	Collection without a valid collector’s tag attached
One NOV	Failed to remove putrescible wastes daily

Web Site - The following is information gathered from the Montgomery County Solid Waste web site for the month of May:

List Memberships	
HHW Announcements	368
Holiday Reminder List	2,761
Newsletter Helper	64

Usage Counters – May 2003	
Number of Visits	3,680
Number of Page Views	6,026
Among the most frequently visited pages were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHW Recycling-Trash-Propane tanks • Transfer Station-Holiday Slide information 	

E-Mail – May 2003	
Top Issues : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrap Metal (Special Lawn Mower disposal questions) • SORRT 	368
Blue Bins	321

Comments we received in May included:

- I didn't see a pull-down option for compliments, so I'll just use this space. I recently ordered a new recycling bin through your online service and requested a special pickup by calling. Not only was the bin delivered as promised, but the person handling my trash pick up call was professional, courteous and thorough. Thank you! (And a recycling truck worker politely suggested that I get a new bin so that I could separate our materials.)
- Thank you. I am very impressed with the timely information we receive and the friendly attitude of the message writer. Keep me on your [holiday reminder] list!
- You guys put cartoons and waste money on pictures but do not write your working hours anywhere and you don't pickup the phones. So while appearing to be colorful, the results are otherwise because you need somebody with a brain to put useful info on the web.
- My bin has been cracked for many months and I wondered what to do. Now that it won't hold anything anymore, a neighbor turned me on to your website which is full of great information! Thank you.
- My compliments to you and your division for doing a good job.
- I just wanted to compliment you on your website. It is extremely well set up and I was able to find the answer to my question about recycling within 30 seconds. Thanks for such great service!

"Behind the Scenes" synopsis:

The spring 2003 "Behind the Scenes" course reached 42 people during its 6-week duration. Participants included regular class attendees (21 registered, though 5 withdrew), visitors for the field trip to DSW's Dickerson facilities, and current volunteers. Classes were presented by Division staff and facility managers, all of whom received excellent evaluations. Comments included:

- I was very surprised how sustainable the [Division] practices are and how much effort goes to protecting the environment.
- A great learning experience to see how recycling works to save money and the environment.
- This program is very good to help interested citizens understand more about municipal solid waste management.
- Wonderful program. Satisfies my interests in County efforts.

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Computer Recycling – Approximately 42 tons of computers were recycled.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities – The GreenMan Show continues to air daily on Cable Channel 6, with online streaming video and access to past shows via online archives. Upcoming features include a special show on Grasscycling and another on “High-tech, Low-tech, & No-tech Lawn Care.” The Grasscycling program will also yield several 60-second Public Service Announcements to be called Eco-Minutes.

The Green Man column continues to appear in numerous Maryland editions of The Gazette Newspapers and on the web at both <http://www.gazette.net/columnists/> and <http://greenman.askdep.com>. The recent Grasscycling – Lawn Care series have resulted in scores of requests for Grasscycling Information Kits, including factsheets, grasscycling rulers, and the now-vintage video: Grasscycling: the Easy Way to a Healthy Lawn.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – There were two HHW events in May. Events were held at the Transfer Station on May 4th and at the Briggs Chaney Park and Ride Lot on May 24th. There were 704 and 350 participants, respectively, at these events. Work, mainly painting that has been hampered by frequent rains, continued on the new roof over the storage compound.

Small Quantity Generator Ecowise Program – One Small Quantity Generator (SQG)/Ecowise event was held on May 14, 2003.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEMS Tracking of RRF Operations – In May, the Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) continued to track the percent load, certain engineering parameters and emissions of all 3 units. The CEMS indicated that all 3 units operated until approximately 3 p.m. on May 26th when the CEMS showed a spike in the Carbon Monoxide (CO) emissions for unit 1; indicating that the unit was being brought offline. Inquiries with Covanta staff indicated that a few grate bars were broken and needed replacement. Thereafter, units 2 and 3 operated until May 27th. The grate bars were replaced within 24 hours and unit 1 was brought back online at approximately 3 p.m. on May 27th. There were no equipment malfunctions that affected the facility emissions other than the grate bar incident noted above.

On May 1st, Covanta performed the monthly "Opacity Test" for May. The opacity test is a requirement under Title V of the RRF Air Permit. As in past tests, the opacity readings were 0% compared to the Title V Permit limit of 10%.

In the first week of May, the set of four CEMS CD-ROM's were updated to include CEMS data up to April 30, 2003. Copies of the CDs' were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to the Air Quality Subcommittee.

FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee – A meeting of the Air Quality Subcommittee was held on May 12th to discuss the second draft of the report on the Updated RRF Health Risk Study and the Winter Ambient Air Sampling Program. DSWS and ENSR staff gave an oral presentation on the Health Risk Study update as well as the Winter Air Monitoring Program. On May 13th, ENSR staff gave a presentation to FIG on the same topics.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology – For the entire month of May, the leachate evaporator remained shutdown. The backup flare operated throughout the month. On May 15th, MDE issued an Air Permit to construct a new flare at the Oaks. This new flare has the same design features as the current backup flare. The new flare is expected to be constructed in June.

Contracts and RFP's – On May 8th, the ENSR contract for the RRF Multi-Media Programs was approved by the Office of Procurement. The Insurance Section of the Office of Risk Management issued an Insurance Certificate. ENSR commenced the field work for the Spring Air Monitoring Program on May 21st. The field program will conclude on June 21st. ENSR is expected to submit a draft report to the County by November 2003.

In response to the RFP for the Meteorological Monitoring Program that was advertised on April 8th, the County received only one proposal. The Qualification & Evaluation Committee (Q&SC) evaluated the proposal and recommended the selection of the proposer. On May 23rd, DSWS sent the Q&SC's recommendation to the Office of Procurement. Currently, DSWS is awaiting Procurement's approval of the selection.

Because of poor contractual performance of the Bentech project, the Director, Office of Procurement issued a "Final Notice of Termination" to Bentech. On May 29th, the Contractor filed an appeal with the Director, DPW&T. The appeal is under review by DSWS and the Office of the County Attorney.

RECYCLING

Public Outreach – The text and layout of the brochure that traces what happens to recyclable items once a person puts it in a recycling bin is being finalized.

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction – Staff continued to perform on-site visits of businesses in May and resolved several complaints. The highlight of the month was Recycling Awareness Week which was held May 19-23 and consisted of many activities to raise awareness of the County's recycling programs and efforts. The "Magic

of Recycling” Show was performed at six elementary schools and educated the students about the importance of recycling. At the 4th Annual Recycling Awards Ceremony, 50 businesses and individuals were recognized for their commitment and dedication to recycling. Guest speakers, Mr. Edwin Pinero, Deputy Federal Environmental Executive, Office of the Federal Environmental Executive, and Mr. Bob Levey, *The Washington Post*, spoke about the importance of closing the recycling loop by purchasing products made with recycled content and thanked the attendees for their dedication to recycling. During a brief respite from the rainy weather, several County businesses and local sports and radio personalities competed in a recycling challenge which raised awareness of the County’s business recycling requirements. In addition, the Division hosted an awards reception for 32 MCPS students and their families as part of MCPS and Waste Management’s “Make Earth Day Every Day, Recycle” poster contest. Outside of Recycling Awareness Week, staff participated in seven special events and directly met with more than 1,800 people during May.

Multi-Family Recycling – The one remaining staff person continued to provide on-site technical assistance and outreach to multi-family property managers. The TRRAC Newsletter is being mailed out and the next issue is in draft.

Mixed Paper Recycling – Existing educational materials are distributed to residents at events. Mixed paper is the commodity that is used to illustrate what happens to recyclable materials once a person puts them into their recycling bin.

Volunteer Activities – May was a very busy month for volunteer activities. Twenty-two volunteers provided over 81 hours of assistance handling various events and activities. Staff is developing the next issue of the Recycleletter to be distributed in June. Twenty-eight volunteers attended the Recognition Dinner and were very pleased with the event. Volunteers are being solicited to take over tour responsibilities at the MRF. A school for disabled students will be volunteering at the Transfer Station in June to assist with various projects.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot – The May totals for the Potomac cart program are:

5/07/03	17,200	21.23 lbs. per house
5/14/03	17,760	21.93 lbs. per house
5/21/03	16,060	19.83 lbs. per house
<u>5/29/03</u>	<u>19,880</u>	<u>25.54 lbs. per house</u>
Total	70,900	21.88 lbs. average

The current average weight per house for the 82 weeks of recorded information of the cart program is 20.12 lbs. as opposed to 13.99 lbs. per house prior to the program. This represents a 43.82% increase in the mixed paper capture rate since the start of the cart program.

Blue Bag Pilot – Data collection on the effectiveness of the use of plastic bags for recycling was completed on May 23, 2003. All data is being entered and analyzed. A draft report is expected in late June.

Cooperative Collection - DSWS is awaiting a draft report of the results and recommendations which is expected the week of June 9th.

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility – Of the 61,551 tons processed in May, 670 tons were reject material from the Compost Facility. This is the most trash ever processed in one month due primarily to the low BTU value of the waste. Trash deliveries have risen to over 13,000 tons/week, averaging 13,106 for the month. The unavailability of ash cars continued to impact operations as the availability of cars changed. The continued effort focused on this issue has improved the situation. Expectations are that it will not continue to effect operations as we move into the summer months. There was one unscheduled outage during the month. Unit 1 came down on May 26th for 26 hours for grate bar repairs.

Covanta had one OSHA recordable incident for a strained back.

There were no generation emergencies issued by Mirant during the month of May. No power was purchased from Mirant during the month.

May 1st starts the ozone season. There were no forecasted Code Red days in May.

There were no reportable air or water quality environmental excursions during the month of May.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Ron Wicks of MDE performed the annual NPDES inspection of the RRF on May 6th;
- Tom MacCubbin of MDE performed a routine solid waste inspection of the RRF on May 6th, no issues were noted;
- Submitted the May 2003 Potable Water Monthly Operating Report to MDE;
- Performed the monthly visible emission (Method 9) observation required by the RRF's Title V permit.

Materials Recovery Facility – Approximately 1,738 tons of commingled material were shipped out, and approximately 5,684 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility. Work on the floor drains in the processing area is substantially complete. Four trees were planted across the building's front. Storage silos in the processing area were emptied and cleaned. The scale house was painted. New, and high wattage lights, were installed on the tip floor, to improve visibility. Several of the building's man-doors were repainted.

Oaks Landfill – The MDE Air Management Administration (AMA) issued a permit for a new landfill gas flare. Materials for improvements to the landfill gas system including pipe and fittings were delivered to the site and will be stored until construction starts at the end of June.

The contract awardee for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance completed final post-award submittals relating to insurance and minority certification. A preconstruction meeting was scheduled for mid-June.

Gude Landfill – Several additional leachate seepage and drainage problems were identified and reviewed with an existing contractor for repairs.

Beantown Dump – Work for the second, and final, phase of installing landfill gas vent wells at the former Beantown Dump Site is substantially complete. All 30 wells to be installed in this phase are developed.

Transfer Station – During May, Covanta shipped via rail 59,597 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the RRF, 5,289 more tons than shipped in May 2002.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

The inbound radiation detectors had 21 alarms in May 2003, including 3 false alarms (alarms that could not be re-verified) - all of the valid alarms were identified as medical isotopes with short half-lives, including some cases where the driver had undergone recent medical treatment, and were accepted.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – The lease for the Chiswell property is being negotiated by DFS. Comments on the draft Site 2 landfill refuse disposal permit are being reviewed by MDE. Notice of property inspections were sent to the Site 2 property tenants.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – In May, the Yard Trim Compost Facility received 6,053 tons of material for composting. The year to date figure of material received is 73,372 tons. Projection for the fiscal year is 80,000 tons of material.

Seven hundred twenty-four (724) tons of grass were shipped to a Waste Management Compost Facility in Virginia.

Six hundred seventy tons (670) tons of debris were sent to the RRF.

Seven thousand four hundred forty-seven (7,447) cubic yards of Leafgro were shipped to distributors.

Bagging Operation – In May, 62,207 bags of Leafgro were shipped to distributors. (Each bag is 1.5 cubic ft. weighing 45 lbs.).

Fire Hydrant Installation – Installation of the fire hydrant is complete.

Linden Farm Renovations – Roof repair work on the Gothic Barn is complete.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia - During the month of May, about 17,973 tons of ash residue and about 7,118 tons of nonprocessible waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. (BWMF) Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. Rail and trucking service performed well as a result of improvements implemented last month. County and Covanta staff observed problems with leaking ash containers; and inspections and maintenance procedures for cleaning doors and gaskets were stepped up. About 508 tons of rubble were recycled this month at Clean Earth in Hagerstown, MD.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370 (County Office) 301-590-1032 (Covanta)
Materials Recovery Facility	301-840-2701 (County Office) 301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6494 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	www.mcrecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

TOPIC OR FACILITY	
Latest Recycling Rate Reported in Montgomery County	37.4% (FY02)
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr @ 5,500 BTU/lb waste).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY02 tons received- 63,634
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,949
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	202,882
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CFR	Code of Federal Regulation
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COD	Cash on Delivery
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
GFA	Gross Floor Area
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
LFG	Landfill Gas
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MCR	Maximum Continuous Rating
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	Milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NMWDA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SDAT	State Department of Assessments and Taxation
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TXA 170	Computer Interface Program (Property Account Database)
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
TRRAC	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing